

Gallaudet Fact—

Q. Who were the first African American students at Gallaudet?
Answer on page 2.



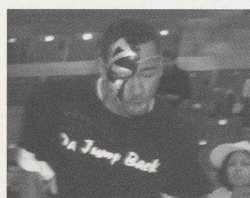
Following a March 1 presentation to the Board of Trustees and the campus community on the three-year, student-centered Deaf Space project, key individuals with the project display a banner with an emblem created by the students to symbolize the concept of deaf space. They have also invented a sign to represent deaf space. Pictured are (from left): students Robert Sirvage and Bridget Klein; ASL and Deaf Studies faculty Dr. H-Dirksen Bauman, professor, and Dr. MJ Bienvenu, chair; students Robert Arnold, Ryan Commerson, and Brooke Budzinski; and architect Hansel Bauman of hbm architects, who is co-teaching the class. The concept of developing a "Deaf and Diverse Campus Design Guide" that will lead Gallaudet toward future planning and design projects which embody deaf ways of being began with the planning for the Sorenson Language and Communication Center. The ensuing workshops and discussions among members of the building's design committee—including Bienvenu, who serves as its co-chair—and other stakeholders, led to founding the three-year Deaf Space class, which will adhere to these goals. It began last fall through ASL and Deaf Studies, with sponsorship by Academic Affairs and Administration and Finance. In architectural terms, the word "maluma" best describes deaf space because it is characterized by free flowing, circular movements—the essence of deaf language and culture—as compared to its design opposite, "dekata," which utilizes rigid, sharp, angular form. The students are already putting their ideas to work, using maluma concepts to plan for dormitory renovations and other capital improvement projects that are part of the University's 10-year master plan.

IN THIS ISSUE



Roving Reporter

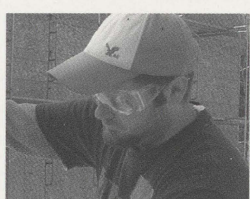
H-Dirksen Bauman shares the secret of his nickname with readers.



Aaron Loggins performs with Da Jump Back at a February 14 halftime event.



Audrey Young greets prospective graduates at Grad Fest.



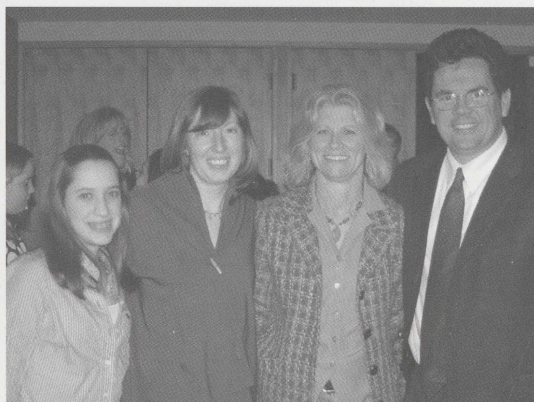
Joseph Vierira helps families realize their dreams of homeownership through service with D.C. Habitat for Humanity.



Guest filmmaker Ann Marie "Jade" Bryan presents "Passionate to Stay Motivated" on February 21 in recognition of Black History Month.

On the Green—A publication for Gallaudet faculty, teachers, and staff
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Audience previews 'Deaf Eyes' at Gallaudet



Superintendent of the Maryland School for the Deaf James Tucker (right), who assisted with the *Through Deaf Eyes* film, with his wife, Karen Sheffer-Tucker, and an executive producer of the film, Karen Kenton (second from left), with her daughter, Hannah Kenton, are shown at the March 2 preview.

Lucky members of the Gallaudet community and others got an early glimpse of an epic film that spans almost two centuries of deaf history. Although the full-length documentary, *Through Deaf Eyes*, will be nationally broadcast March 21 on public television stations, a premiere screening for a limited number of ticket holders was held in Kellogg Conference Hotel's Swindells Auditorium on March 2.

President Robert Davila called the unveiling of the film "a historic moment." He also acknowledged the work of former President I. King Jordan in making the project a reality.

"This night has been a long time coming," said Interim Provost Michael Moore in his welcome to the audience at the premiere. Dr. Moore could have been referring both to the long history that it portrays and the work that went into its produc-

tion. The two-hour HDTV program begins just before Laurent Clerc's era, continues through the ages of turmoil when ASL and oral philosophies collided, and brings viewers to the current times, as new challenges and innovations emerge in deaf education, language, and identity.

Sharon Percy Rockefeller, president and CEO of Washington's public television and radio station WETA, spoke about her experience with the production. Rockefeller said she had known from the first project meeting five years earlier that the film would be a success. "It was clear even then that the film was destined to be big," she said. Rockefeller enjoyed the collaboration with the University, noting the strong working relationship between Gallaudet and WETA. (*Through Deaf Eyes* is a production of WETA Washington, D.C.)

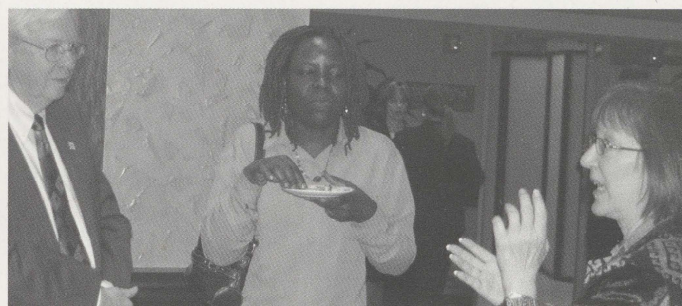
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Students from St. Rita's School for the Deaf in Cincinnati, Ohio, sign "The Star Spangled Banner" in a 1918 photograph. This is the signature image of the "History Through Deaf Eyes" exhibition and book.

Photograph by J.B. Schmidt, National Archives. Image: 165-WW-77E-3.

Board seeks nominations for new trustees



As part of their recent two-day meeting, members of the Board of Trustees gathered informally with the campus community at a reception on March 1 at the Kellogg Conference Hotel. LEFT: Trustee Cheryl Heppner (right) chats with Dr. Rachel Hartig, a professor in the Department of Foreign Languages, Literatures, and Cultures. RIGHT: Board Chair Pamela Holmes (right) has a discussion with Interim Provost Michael Moore and Khudijat Rashid, associate professor in the Department of Business.

The Board of Trustees is seeking nominations for new members. An announcement that a new process has been developed for receiving new board members, who will begin serving terms in October, was announced by Chair Pamela Holmes at the board's March 2 meeting.

In a campus email that followed the board meeting, Holmes stated, "We are seeking individuals who are dedicated to making Gallaudet a model of academic excellence and diversity. We want dynamic individuals who are committed to active participation in board and committee meetings and many other activities crucial to Gallaudet's mission."

Documents outlining trustee selection timelines, trustee duties and additional information, the trustee nomination process, and trustee selection criteria are available online at bot.gallaudet.edu/x3681.xml for anyone interested in nominating themselves or someone else. Nominations can be made at botnominations@gallaudet.edu.

In other news, Dr. Robert Davila, presiding over his first Board of Trustees meeting since becoming Gallaudet's ninth president in January, outlined five priorities designed to guide Gallaudet to a bright future: increasing respect and value for the diversity of people and ideas; promoting a shared understanding and ownership of the mission; increasing academic rigor and a culture of excellence; improving recruitment, enrollment, and retention of students; and improving shared governance. Davila said he owed "a great measure of thanks to many people in the community who have helped me share the focus of where Gallaudet is going." Davila, a 1953 graduate of the University, added that he attributes much of his success to his Gallaudet education, and encouraged the board and everyone in the community to help him make that opportunity available for all students.

In her first address as board chair, Holmes took the opportunity to praise Davila for the effort he

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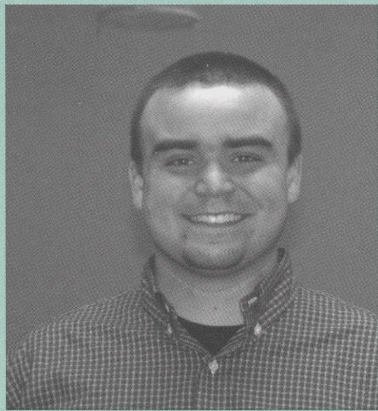
Roving Reporter

What is your nickname and where did it come from?



My full first name is Humphrey-Dirksen, and most people call me Dirksen, signed as D across the chest (same as President Davila). However, my colleagues in ASL/Deaf Studies like to call me H across the chest, for Humphrey, whenever I lose or misplace something, which is just about every day!

H-Dirksen Bauman, professor,
Department of ASL and
Deaf Studies



Luke is my nickname, and it's the shorter version of my middle name, Lucanus, which comes from Latin origins and means "bringer of light." My parents named me after Saint Luke...hence my middle name and my nickname.

Oscar Ocuto, sports information
director, Athletics



My nickname is my middle name. My full name is Luis Uriel Torres, but since I was born, my mom has called me Uriel because my dad's first name is Luis as well. Luis is the most common name in Latin America. I like my middle name because it is unique.

(Luis) Uriel Torres, student



My family-given nickname is Nessie. My work nickname, Poopie, was pinned on me by Fred Kendrick in the 1980s. Fred was a longtime Gallaudet employee and former executive director of Business Services. Many Gallaudet staff call me that today and, believe it or not, I still answer!

Darnese Nicholson, director,
Transportation Department

Clerc Center Happenings

St. Patrick's Beach Bash party provides fun—and a lesson

By Stephanie Moore,
Campus Life resident assistant

College: the opportunity to further an education, a chance to grow and learn about the world ... and a chance to party? That's right, party!

Many students don't just see college as a place to learn, but also as a central party zone. As a resident assistant in Ballard West, I see this attitude throughout the dorm. It has become almost normal to see many students walking around with big black "X" marks on the back of their hand made by a felt-tipped marker, proof that the person most likely went to a party, possibly the night before.

When freshmen first come to college it is a huge step of independence and the right to party is included in that, many will tell you. Educating freshmen on alcohol policies, explaining that underage drinking is not permitted, the physical effects of alcohol use, and possible consequences of overindulging is a tough thing to do when they feel it is their right to do so. This is why the residence hall staff of Ballard West is trying to take a different approach to address this topic.

In planning a dorm program we wanted to really connect with the residents on the issue of alcohol and, of course, make an impact—give them something to think about. Explaining the policies and fining residents only goes so far. So, the Ballard West residence hall team decided to host a house party in the dorm complete with a keg, Jell-O shots, and classic drinking games such as Beer Pong and Flip-cup. We called it a St. Patrick's Beach Bash, and it was held on

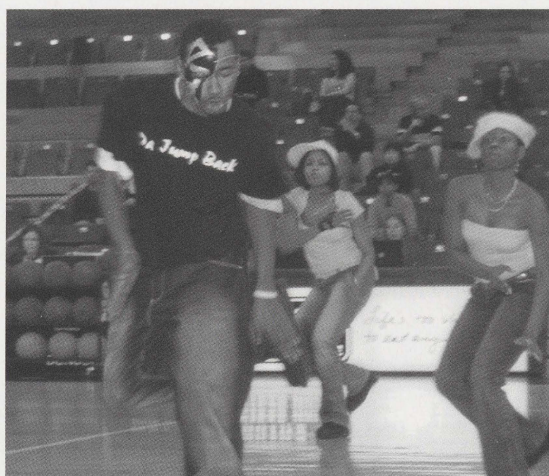
March 6 in Ballard West in the first floor lobby.

However, there was a catch: This house party included NO ALCOHOL. A house party without alcohol, you ask? Well, that's the whole point. This house party had all the aspects and feel of a house party without the bad hangovers. The keg actually contained root beer, the Jell-O shots were just Jell-O. The residents got a big black "X" mark on their hand and were then encouraged to "drink" and enjoy the party.

We had tables set-up for the residents to visit throughout the program/party. One table had a Blood Alcohol Content (BAC) calculator. Every time residents finished a "beer" or took a "shot" they put a dash on their forearm (just like at real house parties) to keep track of how many drinks they had. We then calculated their BAC and told them how "drunk" they were. The next step was for them to go to the Department of Public

Safety station where they put on goggles that simulated the effects of drinking, and they were given a sobriety test. Both of these activities helped educate the resident that it doesn't take much to be legally drunk. We also had a table set up for the Peer Health Advocates, who provided information about what can happen to students under the influence of alcohol—for example, date rape, unwanted pregnancies, and STDs.

The goal was to expose residents to all the different resources available to them on campus and help them better understand what they are doing to their bodies when they drink. By staging a mock house party environment we educated students using a fun activity and helped them understand what can happen in situations such as this. Hopefully, it helped them realize that the consequences go far beyond simply receiving a fine. ■



Student Aaron Loggins (front) and members of the step dance group Da Jump Back performed at two venues in February. The group, which is run by students and supported by the Black Deaf Student Union, will soon celebrate its third anniversary with a special dance event (see Campus Calendar). Here, they delight sports fans at a halftime show during a February 14 men's basketball game. On February 26, the group was invited to join a Black History Month celebration performance at Ford's Theatre, where they were presented with a plaque thanking them for their work in the show.

Gallaudet Fact—

A. The first African American student to graduate from Gallaudet was the famous Andrew Foster, who got his degree in 1954. The first African American woman to graduate was Ida Gray, in 1957. However, records show that black students enrolled at Gallaudet as early as the 1880s.

ON THE GREEN

Kendall Green
Gallaudet University
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Publications Manager
Roz Prickett

Editor & Photo Editor
Todd Byrd

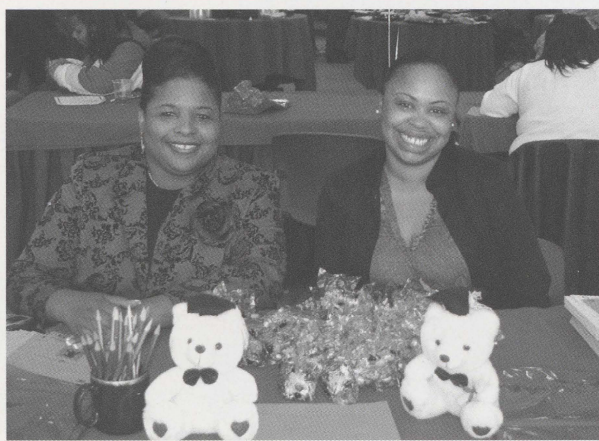
Writer
Rhea Yablon Kennedy

Contributors
Mercy Coogan
Shondra Dickson
Ralph Fernandez
Darrick Nicholas
Design/Production
Graphic Design & Production

Printing
BelJean Printing

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President's Office staff members Audrey Young (left), executive coordinator for operations and events, and Daun Banks, executive secretary, greet prospective graduates during Grad Fest, held on February 28. This annual event, hosted by the Office of the President, brings together departments from across campus to offer graduates a wide range of services, such as signing off on student loans and joining the Gallaudet University Alumni Association.

Board seeks new trustees

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has put forth since becoming president. "He got no honeymoon," putting in long hours since the day he took office, she said. Holmes also thanked everyone who has worked with Davila in moving the University forward. In a second campus email from the board that day, the trustees commended Davila on the progress he has made in addressing the Middle States Association report, and supported the priorities for the University that he presented at the meeting.

Resolutions were read on behalf of three trustees who have recently stepped down from their posts—Celia May Baldwin, Dr. Brenda Jo Brueggemann, and Bill Graham. Christopher Sullivan

was named secretary of the board to fill the position left vacant by Graham.

In other news, the board was given a presentation on enrollment and retention efforts by Deborah DeStefano, executive director of Enrollment Services, Dr. Catherine Andersen, director of the First Year Experience program, and Dr. Thomas Allen, dean of Graduate School and Professional Programs. Richard Kinney, chair of the Committee on Financial and Institutional Affairs, reported that 2006 was a good year for the University's investments, and the endowment stands at \$186.1 million. He said the Development Office's fund raising goal for the year is \$10.3 million, of which \$1.7 million has been raised to date; and reported that the federal appropriation to the University for the 2007 fiscal year is \$107 million—the same as 2006. ■



Graduate School and Professional Programs Dean Thomas Allen presents service awards to Hearing, Speech, and Language Sciences Department members (from second left): Antoinette Allen (15 years), Jimmy Lee (10 years), Rala Stone (15 years), Dr. James Mahshie (25 years), and Dr. Matthew Bakke (5 years).

Photo by Vicky King

Campus Calendar

March

19—Career Center: Camp Lakodia interviews, 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m., JSAC 2221

20—Men's baseball, 3:30 p.m., Hoy Field

21—Career Center: Mock Interviews with Rotary Club, 9:30-11:30 a.m., JSAC 2221; Men's tennis, 3:30 p.m., tennis courts

21-24—Income tax filing assistance, Ely Center 202D (see calendar.gallaudet.edu for each day's schedule)

22—Library Workshop: Beyond Google, 4-5 p.m., JSAC 1212; KDES Tech Fair, 5-7 p.m., KDES gym; presentation by Hope's Voice on HIV/AIDS issues, 7-9 p.m., JSAC MPR

23—Presentation, "From Minority to Majority, Invisible to Envisioning," noon-1 p.m., Foster Auditorium; Women's softball, 2:30 p.m., and men's baseball, 3:30 p.m., Hoy Field

24—5K Walk/Run for Abused Deaf Women's Advocacy Services, 8 a.m.-noon, Faculty Row; Men's tennis, 1 p.m., tennis courts; Da Jump Back

Third Anniversary Step Show, 7:30 p.m., MSSD Theater Malz

29—Library Workshop: Drop-in Research Help, 4-5 p.m., JSAC 1212

30—Undergraduate Open House, 8 a.m.-5 p.m., various locations; Gallaudet Dance Company Spring Dance Concert, 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m., Foster Auditorium

31—Bison Softball Invitational Tournament, Hoy Field; Gallaudet Dance Company Spring Dance Concert, 7:30 p.m., Foster Auditorium; UnityFest 2007, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., Gallaudet Mall; Men's baseball, 1 p.m., Hoy Field

April

2—Monthly PFLAG meeting, 7:30-9 p.m., HMB S135,

5—Library Workshop: Does the Library Have This Journal? 4-5 p.m., JSAC 1212; Miss and Mr. International Gallaudet, 6 p.m., JSAC MPR

5-6—*Sign Me Alice*, 8 p.m. both days, Elstad Auditorium

'Deaf Eyes' premiere

continued from page 1

and Florentine Films/Hott Productions, Inc. in association with Gallaudet University.)

Once the program got under way, it was evident that Gallaudet was the ideal place to introduce the film. Many familiar Gallaudet faces appear in the program and many others worked behind the scenes. One of the main players was Jean Bergey, project director for the Deaf Eyes project. Six deaf filmmakers' works are featured in the documentary, including a film by Tracey Salaway, associate professor in the Art Department. The showing of *Through Deaf Eyes* will be followed by a Deaf Cinema Showcase.

Major funding for the documentary was provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities, the

Corporation for Public Broadcasting, PBS, The Annenberg Foundation, and the National Endowment for the Arts. Additional funding was provided by Sign Language Associates and Richard and Gail Elden.

The film is available on DVD and VHS from PBS. Gallaudet University Press is publishing a companion book, *Through DEAF EYES: A Photographic History of an American Community*, by Douglas Baynton, Jack Gannon, and Bergey. More information on buying the DVD, VHS, and book is available at www.gallaudet.edu/x3666.xml.

The television premiere of the program will air on WETA (Channel 26 for basic cable users, 220 on Comcast digital cable, and 726 on Cox digital cable) on Wednesday, March 21 at 9 p.m., followed immediately by the Deaf Cinema Showcase at 11 p.m. ■

Tune in to 'Deaf Eyes' and works by deaf filmmakers

Following the March 21 national television premiere of the documentary *Through Deaf Eyes* on WETA, a Deaf Cinema Showcase will feature the work of six deaf filmmakers. The short films, each three to 12 minutes in length, were selected by a panel led by Theatre Arts Department Chair Willy Conley and Professor Jane Norman of the Department of Communications Studies.

The relationship between Gallaudet and WETA that developed with *Through Deaf Eyes* was the springboard for the Deaf Cinema Showcase. Jacqueline Todt, senior director of Production and Creative Services for WETA TV, described the project as a positive endeavor that led to a first for WETA. "Everyone I encountered through Gallaudet has made this a great experience," she said. "Over the past few years, the popularity of independent films has definitely increased and, accordingly, WETA TV has been broadcasting more independent films. But the Deaf Cinema Showcase marks the first time WETA TV has put together its own 'on-air' festival of independent films."

The filmmakers featured include Gallaudet's own Gary Brooks and Paul Filiatreault, production specialists in Academic Technology, and Tracey Salaway, associate professor in the Art Department.

The films in the Showcase are:

"The Deaf Man"

Producer: Julia Dameron

Writer/Director: David Kurs

This black and white conceptual film addresses the thematic underpinnings of the relationship between deaf people and the world they live in. The film's protagonist is a man with a cochlear implant scar who is confronted by a judgmental "voice."

"Don't Mind?"

Producer: Patti Durr

Directors: Patti Durr and Elizabeth Sorkin

When an elderly man is unexpectedly asked to babysit a neighbor's daughter he gets a lot more than he bargained for.

"....and I Die Soon"

Producer: Branic Keltz

Directors: Paul Filiatreault and Michael Nesmith

Writer: Ben Moore

In this dark, cinematic tale, two college students—strangers to one another—have a dramatic impact on each other's lives after a short, fateful encounter.

"That Thing from Outer Space"

Producer: Gary Brooks

A light-hearted adventure about a young deaf boy who discovers an alien and decides to bring it home.

"Deaf Dilemmas"

Producer and Director: Jonathan Lewis

Writer: Christine Cox

While all relationships have their challenges, the typical young couple in this film experiences a struggle which shines a light on a conflict within the deaf community.

"Treetop Opera"

Producer: Tracey Salaway

This animated, stylistic feature captures the freakish, overwhelming invasion of the cicadas during the summer of 2004.

First conference by and for deaf people from spectrum of ethnic and racial backgrounds to be held this month

The National Coalition of Deaf People of Color (NCDPC) announces a first-of-its-kind conference, for and directed by deaf people of all ethnic/racial backgrounds, from March 29 to April 1 at the Indianapolis Marriott Downtown, Indianapolis, Ind. People of ALL colors, races, ethnicities, religions, and cultural affiliations are welcome.

This conference is a team effort—organized by Dr. Laurene Simms, associate professor in the Department of Education, as the program coordinator/conference liaison, and the ad hoc NCDPC, representing various deaf ethnic organizations, with the support of MSM Productions, Ltd. A portion of the conference proceeds will be used to benefit NCDPC in its goal of training and educating professionals and students.

Participants can earn up to 20 hours—2.0 Registry of Interpreters for

the Deaf (RID) credits towards American Sign Language Teachers Association and RID certification with RID continuing education units, and Certification Maintenance Program—enhance their early education teaching skills, exchange ideas, network with other teachers and mentors, and meet new friends!

Conference sponsors are Gallaudet; CSD; IP-RELAY.com; Sprint; Rochester Institute of Technology; National Technical Institute for the Deaf; The National Consortium of Interpreter Education Centers; deaf.com; Sorenson Communications; California State University, Northridge; Relay Indiana; Vincennes University; and DeafLife.

There will also be a Gallaudet-sponsored gala. For the conference schedule, list of presenters and their topics, and other information, go to www.deafpeopleofcolor.org. ■

Gallaudet students help families in need realize the dream of home ownership



(Left): Joseph Vierira saws lumber as part of the fire blocking process. (Right): Student volunteer Paul Ososki (right) and two AmeriCorps volunteers secure protective material to the Habitat house under construction.

By Karen Terhune

Gallaudet students helped make the dream of home ownership a reality for local low-income families by joining with workers from D.C. Habitat for Humanity and AmeriCorps to help build homes off of Nannie Helen Burroughs Ave., NE in Washington, D.C. The project is part of D.C. Habitat's 53-home development, the largest ever for the 18-year-old affiliate.

Habitat for Humanity is an international non-profit organization that builds and sells home to qualified families. Habitat depends on volunteers to provide the necessary construction work. No experience is necessary as the building sites are staffed by professional contractors who have been specially trained to teach and supervise volunteer workers.

Recently, the Department of Social Work and Community Service Programs coordinated a Habitat community service project.

Five Gallaudet students braved frigid temperatures on February 16 to assist a Habitat for Humanity crew. In order to perform the work, students were taught how to use a rotating saw, the correct kind of nails to use, and how to properly hammer wooden studs together in order

to make a structure that would support drywall.

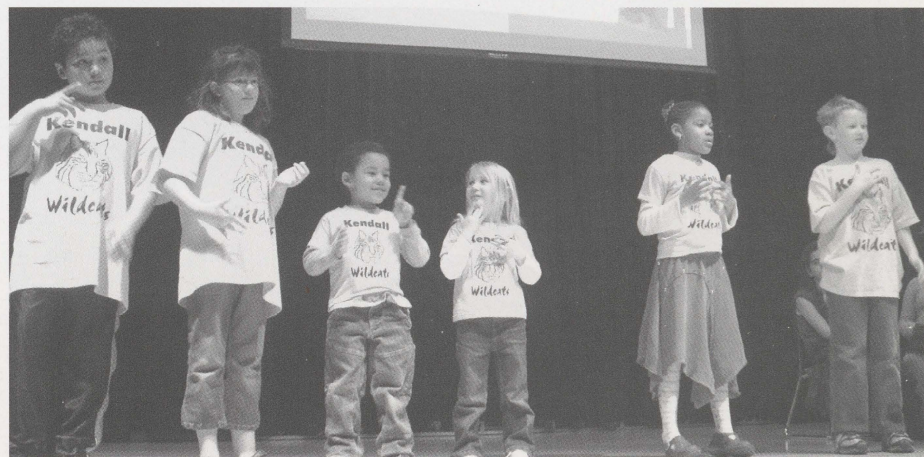
Then, on March 2, nine Gallaudet students traveled to the Habitat site to provide volunteer assistance for the construction project. The students worked on three houses doing a variety of tasks. One group of students performed "fire blocking." This involved fitting a 2x4 piece of lumber between the studs of the house. The students cut the lumber using a rotating saw and hammered the pieces into place. At another house, students secured protective material to the outside of the home in order to provide insulation from the elements. Finally, a third group of students worked on a house that is scheduled to be completed later this month. These students painted and caulked trim throughout the house.

Both groups of students worked hard from 8:30 a.m. until 4:30 p.m., and their efforts were greatly appreciated by the Habitat crew. They also earned eight hours toward their community service graduation requirement. Further, the students found the day to be enjoyable, educational, and rewarding. ■

(Note: Karen Terhune is program specialist for Community Service Programs.)

Clerc Center Happenings

Grand party celebrates Kendall's 150th anniversary



KDES students sign the "Happy Birthday" song as part of a ceremony marking Kendall school's 150th anniversary.

By Susan M. Flanigan

Born from one man's vision 150 years ago, a small school on Amos Kendall's farm has grown into a nationally recognized demonstration school for deaf and hard of hearing students. During this anniversary year there will be a number of special events and activities at KDES.

To start off the festivities, the students, teachers, and staff held a grand birthday celebration on February 22 in the KDES auditorium with theatrical presentations on the history of the school. In her opening remarks, Clerc Center Dean Katherine Jankowski shared some interesting historical facts about KDES. For example, when Kendall School was first founded, it served 12 deaf and six blind students. Also, for most of the 20th century, African American students were not admitted at the school. It was not until 1952 that the school permanently admitted African American students, and 1954 when they were integrated with white students—after

a Supreme Court ruling overturned segregation.

After her remarks, Dr. Jankowski introduced President Robert Davila, who expressed his enthusiasm for being able to return to KDES, where he served as an administrator 18 years ago. Dr. Davila shared with the students that in the future they will be proud to call themselves alumni of KDES and then move on to MSSD and then to the University.

The students used a variety of media to share their birthday messages. One impersonated Amos Kendall in an amusing video skit; another shared a video of the history of KDES. Students performed poetry and showed art with an ASL interpretation. A 150th banner with a representation of the Rose Cottage, the original school building donated by Kendall, was unveiled. A group of students came on stage to sign the "Happy Birthday" song.

KDES Principal Marilyn Farmer closed the ceremony by thanking everyone who had contributed to the day's events and invited all the guests to retire to the lobby to enjoy birthday cake. ■

Among Ourselves



Carol Cutler Riddick, a professor in the Department of Physical Education and Recreation, was elected president of the Society of Park and Recreation Educators (SPRE). She took office during the Annual Meeting of the National Recreation and Park Association, held in October in Seattle, Wash. SPRE represents faculty teaching at the approximately 750 university and community colleges in North America that offer degrees in recreation, parks, tourism, and leisure studies. Among the purposes of SPRE are curricula development and reform, promotion of continuing education training activities, and support of research related to the profession.



"If I did it, then it can be done!" said deaf filmmaker Ann Marie "Jade" Bryan, who presented "Passionate to Stay Motivated," a February 21 event sponsored by Multicultural Student Programs in recognition of Black History Month. Jade detailed the struggles she faced while becoming the first African American woman to earn a B.F.A. in film production/directing from the Tisch School of the Arts at New York University. Jade has gone on to found Deafvision Filmworks, Inc., a not-for-profit company, and establish Jade Films and Entertainment, LLC, a commercial production company. She told her audience to keep going despite life's obstacles, and promoted six ways to stay motivated: renew motivation every day, have a vision for your life, fuel your passion, work hard enough to get results, put good materials into your mind, and ride the momentum when it comes.